(b) the number of people who got employment under this yojana and the village-wise details of construction works started under the said yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) 45755 mandays of employment were generated under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) during the year 2000-2001 in Faridkot District of Punjab.

(b) The progress of the Scheme was monitored in the Ministry in terms of mandays generated and not in terms of number of persons provided employment. Village-wise works were also not monitored in the Ministry.

Corruption in Watershed Programmes

2173. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Watershed Programmes undertaken by NGOs in various parts of the country are steeped in corruption, in the absence of any physical audits;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the grants for Watershed Programmes given by the Union Government to NGOs have been siphoned off;

(d) if so, whether any physical verification of proper use of grants have been undertaken by Government; and

(e) if not,the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Rural Development is administering three major Watershed Development Programmes, namely, the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme, Desert Development Programme and Drought Prone Areas Programme. Central funds for implementation of these Programmes by the State Governments are released directly to the concerned District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads (ZPs). They, in turn, make releases to the Project Implementation Agencies (PIAs), which may also include NGOs among others. The identification and appointment of NGOs for implementation of these Watershed Projects is to be done by DRDAs/ ZPs. After release of the first instalment of Central funds along with the Sanction Order to the Watershed Projects, subsequent instalments are

released only after ascertaining that the funds earlier released had been properly utilized for the purpose they were meant, through Utilisation Certificates, Audited Statement of Accounts, Project Action Plan etc. In addition, after a Watershed Project received 45% of the Project cost, it is mandatory that a Mid-Term Evaluation of the Project gets conducted by an independent evaluator. The next instalment to the Project is released only when the Evaluation Report clearly indicates satisfactory performance of the Project and utilization of funds as per the approved work plan.

In the case of Watershed Projects implemented through NGOs by the Council of Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), there is a system of physical audit of its programmes in the form of a three-tier monitoring system by independent monitors *viz.*, pre-funding appraisal before sanctioning a project, mid-term evaluation during the implementation of the project and post evaluation after completion of the project. This system adopted by CAPART has prevented misuse of funds for the programmes.

Assistance for development and reforms facility programme

†2174. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to provide Central assistance to States to implement the development and reforms facility programme;

(b) if so, what is the blue print of the above programme; and

(c) the State-wise details of amount proposed to be given or allotted during the financial year under the aforesaid programme by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission, which is implementing the Development and Reform Facility Programme (Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana), has informed that 25 most backward districts in the country have been identified for implementation of the Programme during the current year, on pilot basis. The list of these districts, State-wise, is enclosed at the Statement (*See* below). The State Government is responsible for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.